

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 481

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Greeneville High School on winning the 2017 TSSAA Division I Class 4A State Football Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors for this State; and

WHEREAS, the Greeneville High School football team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2017 season, winning the coveted Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I Class 4A State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, state championships are achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel with a cooperative spirit; the Greene Devils exhibited each of these rare qualities during their championship season; and

WHEREAS, achieving the rare, perfect season record of 15-0, Greeneville rolled through the playoffs with fire and brimstone as the Greene Devils defeated East Ridge 56-7, Chattanooga Central 49-12, Anderson County 35-31, and Marshall County 49-24 to advance to the state championship game; and

WHEREAS, facing the Yellow Jackets of Springfield in the BlueCross Bowl on December 1, 2017, in Cookeville on the campus of Tennessee Technological University, Greeneville was led by Offensive MVP Cade Ballard and Defensive MVP Seth Crawford as the team completed their undefeated season with a resounding 54-13 victory; and

WHEREAS, this state championship is the third in school history and the first since Greeneville won back-to-back state titles in 2010 and 2011 and avenges a loss in their first state championship game in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the members of this championship team are Nick Iezzi, Cade Ballard, Nathaniel Moon, Blayne Ferguson, Garrin Shuffler, Jacques Gillespie, Branson Odell, Johnathan Freshour, Will Lowery, Logan Shipley, Dorien Goddard, Josh Wallin, Raymond Knuckles, Dalton McLain, Matthew Wagner, Layton Mitchell, Jake Goodwin, Jamian Thompson, Garrison Brooks, Jaevon Gillespie, Cameron Hite, Morgan Montgomery, Seth Crawford, Jaden Pruitt, Eli Shepherd, Will Albright, Michael Moore, Tristan Casebrier, Tyler Marsh, Keyontae Harrison, Ethan Zook, Ben Christian, Kenny Kershaw, C.J. Henley, Stephen Myers, Parker Burns, Robert Freeman, Cade Miles, Lane Doane, Jordan Batson, Ty Youngblood, Trey Mayes, Sam Allen, Trent Knight, Alec Crum, Chris Everhart, Tristan McDonald, Clayton Odom, Devin Dye, Tommy Taylor, Jackson Metcalfe, A.J. Greenway, Spencer Schofield, Miseal Arellanes, Trevor Belcher, Grayson Jennings, Nick Rideout, Austin Saylor, Thomas Carter, Grant Busler, Gabriel Seaton, Flint Carter, Jake Hartman, Cej Jones, Matt Wallin, Todd Wallin, and Reid Cannon; and

WHEREAS, the State Champion Greene Devils of Greeneville High School enjoyed the leadership, dedication, and commitment to excellence of an exceptional group of coaches, namely Head Coach Caine Ballard and assistant coaches Danny Bentley, David Crawford, Broderick Gillespie, Dan Hammonds, Adam Hansel, Scott Harris, Koryei Jefferson, Casey Jones, Andy McCall, Josh Quillen, Eddie Spradlen, and Alex Taylor; and

WHEREAS, the football players of Greeneville High School epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the field while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired their fellow students and united the entire community during their triumphant run through the 2017 season; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship football season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Greene Devils of Greeneville High School for serving as exemplars of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the players and coaching staff of the Greeneville High School Greene Devils football team on winning the 2017 TSSAA Division I Class 4A State Football Championship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.